| No The Part of the | | |
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| DEC 3 2006 | CERTIFICATE OF MAILING | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposite Commissioner to the commis | ed with the United States Postal Service A 22313-1450. | as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: |
| Typed or Printed Name Maria J. Sousa | | |
| Signature Mars- | la | Date 12/19/06 |
| 1 | | |
| AMENDMENT UNDER | Attorney Docket | GUID-005CON6 |
| 37 C.F.R. §1.116 | Confirmation No. | 5455 |
|) 57 C.P.IC 91.110 | First Named Inventor | Taylor |
| / | Application Number | 10/684,557 |
| 1 | Filing Date | 10/14/2003 |
| Address to: | Group Art Unit | 3732 |
| Mail Stop AF | Examiner Name | O'Connor, Cary E. |
| Commissioner for Patents | Title | Surgical Instruments and Procedures |
| P.O. Box 1450 | | for Stabilizing the Beating Heart |
| Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | | During Coronary Artery Bypass Graft |
| 7110Amidita, V71 22313-1430 | | Surgery |

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated October 10, 2006 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before January 10, 2007. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.